

FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION
OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20579

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

CLARA MARGARET WALKINGTON

Under the International Claims Settlement
Act of 1949, as amended

Claim No. CU-0248

Decision No. CU - 2055

PROPOSED DECISION

This claim against the Government of Cuba, filed under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, in the amount of \$57,000.00, was presented by CLARA MARGARET WALKINGTON and is based upon the asserted loss of unimproved realty on the Isle of Pines, Cuba. Claimant stated that she has been a national of the United States since her birth in Ohio.

Under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949 [78 Stat. 1110 (1964), 22 U.S.C. §§1643-1643k (1964), as amended, 79 Stat. 988 (1965)], the Commission is given jurisdiction over claims of nationals of the United States against the Government of Cuba. Section 503(a) of the Act provides that the Commission shall receive and determine in accordance with applicable substantive law, including international law, the amount and validity of claims by nationals of the United States against the Government of Cuba arising since January 1, 1959 for

losses resulting from the nationalization, expropriation, intervention or other taking of, or special measures directed against, property including any rights or interests therein owned wholly or partially, directly or indirectly at the time by nationals of the United States.

Section 502(3) of the Act provides:

The term 'property' means any property, right, or interest including any leasehold interest, and debts owed by the Government of Cuba or by enterprises which have been nationalized, expropriated, intervened, or taken by the Government of Cuba and debts which are a charge on property which has been nationalized, expropriated, intervened, or taken by the Government of Cuba.

Section 504 of the Act provides, as to ownership of claims, that

(a) A claim shall not be considered under section 503(a) of this title unless the property on which the claim was based was owned wholly or partially, directly or indirectly by a national of the United States on the date of the loss and if considered shall be considered only to the extent the claim has been held by one or more nationals of the United States continuously thereafter until the date of filing with the Commission.

The Regulations of the Commission provide:

The claimant shall be the moving party and shall have the burden of proof on all issues involved in the determination of his claim. (FCSC Reg., 45 C.F.R. §531.6(d) (Supp. 1967).)

This claim is based on the loss of approximately 38 acres of unimproved land on the Isle of Pines, Cuba. In support of the claim, claimant submitted photocopies of a tax registration statement, tax payment receipts, two pages of what appears to be a Spanish Language land deed, correspondence from a real estate agent in Cuba, a birth certificate pertaining to one Clara Margaret Rogers and claimant's own statements.

By Commission letter dated July 8, 1966, claimant was advised as to the type of evidence proper for submission to establish this claim under the Act. Thereafter, by letters of October 13, 1966 and July 18, 1967, the Commission made further suggestions to claimant concerning the submission of supporting evidence in this matter. Other than that described above, however, no evidence in response to this correspondence has been received to date.

On March 29, 1968, certain additional suggestions were made to claimant as to evidence appropriate for submission in this matter, and she was advised

that absent receipt of suggested evidence within 45 days from that date, a determination of this claim would be made on the basis of the existing record. No response to this correspondence has been received to date.

The Commission finds that claimant has not met the burden of proof in that she has failed to establish ownership by a national of the United States of rights and interest in property which was nationalized, expropriated or otherwise taken by the Government of Cuba. Thus, the Commission is constrained to deny this claim and it is hereby denied. The Commission deems it unnecessary to make determinations with respect to other elements of the claim.

Dated at Washington, D. C.,
and entered as the Proposed
Decision of the Commission

8 JUL 1968

Leonard v. B. Sutton
Leonard v. B. Sutton, Chairman

Theodore Jaffe
Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner

Sidney Freidberg
Sidney Freidberg, Commissioner

Notice: Pursuant to the Regulations of the Commission, if no objections are filed within 15 days after service or receipt of notice of this Proposed Decision, the decision will be entered as the Final Decision of the Commission upon the expiration of 30 days after such service or receipt of notice, unless the Commission otherwise orders. (FCSC Reg., 45 C.F.R. 531.5(e) and (g) as amended, 32 Fed. Reg. 412-13 (1967).)

CU-0248